I

MILDENHALL RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SECURITY
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Annual Report

of the

Medical Officer of Health

including the Report of the

Chief Public Health Inspector

For the year ended 31st December, 1972

Mildenhall Rural District Council

Chairman of the Council

Councillor B.A.M. Lingwood, J.P.

Chairmen of the Public Health Committee

Councillor T.A. Hagger, J.P. - January 1972

Councillor L.R. Ford - February to December 1972

Medical Officer of Health (Acting)

Dr. D.A.McCracken, C.St.J., M.D., M.F.C.M., D.P.H., F.R.S.H.
January to June 1972

Dr. D.G.H.Patey, M.A., B.M., B.Ch., M.F.C.M., D.P.H.
July to December 1972

Chief Public Health Inspector

L. McCowey, M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Inspector

J.P. Lynch, M.A.P.H.I. - January to March 1972

J.R. Tanswell, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H. - September to December 1972

County Medical Officer of Health,
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Lower Baxter Street,
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Suffolk.

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To the Chairman and Members of the
Mildenhall Rural District Council

In accordance with the Public Health Officers Regulations 1959 I have the honour to present for your information the annual report of the Medical Officer of Health for 1972. The appointment of Medical Officer Of Health is at present vacant and filled on a temporary basis by the County Medical Officer of Health. I succeeded Dr. D. A. McCracken in July 1972 and it therefore falls to me to present this report.

The estimated population of the district has increased by 1,170 people, the natural increase that is excess of births over deaths being 381. The birth rate remained higher than that for England and Wales as a whole.

The statistics in the report show a generally satisfactory state of health with the exception of a relatively high incidence of measles. One-hundred-and-six notifications of this disease were received which represents 44% of the total notifications received for the whole of the county of West Suffolk. Measles is a disease with an appreciable incidence of serious complications and it is to be hoped that more parents will take advantage of the protection that is available to their children by the simple procedure of immunisation.

The environmental work of the public health department is dealt with in the report of Mr. L. McCowey, Chief Public Health Inspector. I am greatly indebted to Mr. McCowey for his help in maintaining the work of the department during a difficult transitional period and in particular for his help in compiling this report.

D. G. H. PATEY

County Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

General Statistics 1972

Registrar General's estimate of population as at 30.6.72 - 30,590

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR
(As supplied by the General Register Office)

LIVE BIRTHS	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	277	278	555
Illegitimate	15	9	24
Total	292	287	579

Live birth rate per 1,000 population	18.9
Corrected birth rate (Comp.factor .90)	17.0
Live birth rate per 1,000 population (England and Wales)	14.8
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	4

STILL BIRTHS	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	3	1	4
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Total	3	1	4

Stillbirth rate per 1,000 total live and stillbirths	7
Stillbirth rate per 1,000 total live and stillbirths (England & Wales)	12

TOTAL LIVE AND STILLBIRTHS	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	280	279	559
Illegitimate	15	9	24
Total	295	288	583

DEATHS	Male	Female	Total
Deaths recorded during 1972	117	81	198
Death rate per 1,000 population			6.5
Corrected death rate (Comp.factor 1.41)			9.2
Death rate per 1,000 population (England & Wales)			12.1

INFANT MORTALITY - Death of infants under one year of age	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	7	4	11
Illegitimate	2	1	3
TOTAL	9	5	14

INFANT MORTALITY RATES	
Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births	24
Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births (England & Wales)	17
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births	20
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births	125
NEO-NATAL MORTALITY RATE	
Deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births	16
EARLY NEO-NATAL MORTALITY RATE	
Deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births	16
PERINATAL MORTALITY RATE	
Stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and stillbirths	22
MATERNAL MORTALITY	
Number of deaths (including abortion)	NIL
Death rate per 1,000 total live and stillbirths	NIL

The following table gives the causes and the number of deaths that occurred during 1972:-

	Male	Female
Other Tuberculosis	-	1
Malignant neoplasm, buccal cavity etc.	1	-
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	1	3
Malignant neoplasm, intestine	5	3
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	5	3
Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	4
Malignant neoplasm, prostate	3	-
Other malignant neoplasms	8	3
Diabetes Mellitus	-	4
Anaemias	1	-
Meningitis	1	-
Other diseases of nervous system	3	1
Chronic Rheumatic heart disease	1	1
Hypertensive disease	-	4
Ischaemic heart disease	29	19
Other forms of heart disease	8	4
Cerebrovascular disease	11	12
Other diseases of circulatory system	1	-
Influenza	1	-
Pneumonia	6	2
Bronchitis and Emphysema	8	1
Asthma	-	1
Other diseases of respiratory system	-	1
Intestinal obstruction and hernia	1	1
Other diseases of digestive system	-	2
Nephritis & Nephrosis	-	1
Hyperplasia of prostate	1	-
Carried Forward	95	71

	Male	Female
Brought Forward	95	71
Diseases of skin, subcutaneous tissue	1	-
Diseases of musculo-skeletal system	1	-
Congenital anomalies	3	1
Birth injury, difficult labour, etc.	1	2
Other causes of perinatal mortality	3	2
Symptoms and ill-defined conditions	4	1
Motor vehicles accidents	4	-
All other accidents	1	3
Suicide and self-inflicted injuries	2	1
All other external causes	2	-
Total	117	81
Total for 1971	134	93

SECTION B

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

(a) LABORATORY SERVICES. The Public Health Laboratory Service, Tennis Court Road, Cambridge, provides an excellent bacteriological service and most readily discusses and advises on any epidemiological or similar problem. Dr. S. Greenburgh, Public Analyst, Tennison Road, Cambridge, gives a similar, efficient, helpful service when chemical analyses are required.

(b) AMBULANCE FACILITIES. These services are provided directly by the County Council under the direction of the County Medical Officer of Health.

(c) NURSING IN THE HOME. The West Suffolk County Council District Nurse-Midwives carry out these duties.

(d) HOSPITALS. Of the 579 live births in 1972 to Mildenhall District residents 186 took place at the Newmarket General Hospital and 224 at the U.S.A.F. Hospital at Lakenheath.

Of the 198 deaths, 102 occurred outside the District (93 in hospitals).

(e) CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES. The West Suffolk County Council hold Infant Welfare Clinics at the following centres in the Mildenhall District.

Beck Row	Village Hall	2nd and 4th Wednesday
Brandon	Church Institute	2nd and 4th Tuesday
Lakenheath	Peace Memorial Hall	4th Thursday
Mildenhall	Health Clinic, Chestnut Close	Every Friday

Outpatients clinics are held at Newmarket General Hospital as shown overleaf.

NEWMARKET GENERAL HOSPITAL - OUTPATIENT CLINICS

CLINIC	SPECIALIST	DAY	TIME	LOCATION
Anti-coagulant	Dr.J.H.Dean	Monday Friday	2.15 pm 2.15 pm	O.P.D. O.P.D.
Appliances	Mr.Ockendon	Monday (Alternate)	10.30 am	O.P.D.
Cardiology	Dr.H.A.Fleming Dr.D.W.Evans	3rd Monday,bi-monthly 4th Monday,bi-monthly	9.45 am 9.45 am	O.P.D. O.P.D.
Chest Medicine	Dr.L.C.Lum	Thursday	2.00 pm	O.P.D.
Dietetics	Miss Flood	Wednesday	2.30 pm	O.P.D.
Dermatology	Dr.S.O.B.Roberts	Tuesday	9.45 am	O.P.D.
E.N.T. Audiometry	Mr.K.Wilsdon Miss Peel	Monday Monday	2.00 pm 2.00 pm	O.P.D. O.P.D.
Geriatrics	Dr.N.K.Coni	Thursday	10.00 am	Day Hosp.
Gynaecology& Obstetrics	Mr.J.S.Hesketh Mr.O.Lloyd	Fri, Gynaecology Tues,Ante & Post Natal Tues,Ante & Post Natal Thurs,Ante & Post Natal Mon,(Alternate) Gynae.	9.30 am 10.00 am 2.00 pm 10.00 am 2.00 pm	O.P.D. Mat.Ward Mat.Ward Mat.Ward O.P.D.
Medicine, General	Dr.R.Arden-Jones Dr.I.E.Evans Dr.K.M.Mackenzie	Tuesday Wednesday Thursday (Alternate) Thursday (Alternate)	2.00 pm 2.00 pm 2.00 pm 2.00 pm	O.P.D. O.P.D. O.P.D. O.P.D.
Neurology	Dr.M.F.T.Yealland	Thursday	10.00 am	O.P.D.
Ophthalmology Orthoptics	Mr.J.Monckton Mrs.Woodington	Tuesday Friday 3rd Monday, Glaucoma Tuesday Tuesday	2.00 pm 10.00 am 10.00 am 10.00 am 2.00 pm	O.P.D. O.P.D. O.P.D. O.P.D. O.P.D.
Oral Surgery	Mr.E.W.B.Varley	Wednesday	2.00 pm	O.P.D.

CLINIC	SPECIALIST	DAY	TIME	LOCATION
Orthopaedics	Mr.E.S.Jamieson	Monday	10.30 am	O.P.D.
		Friday	2.00 pm	O.P.D.
		Saturday (Alternate) Children Only	10.15 am	O.P.D.
		Tuesday,Plaster Clinic	2.00 pm	Plas.Rm
		Thursday, not 4th Physio. cases only	10.00 am	Physio.Dpt
	Mr.P.M.Scott	Tuesday, not 4th	9.15 am	O.P.D.
			11.30 am	Physio.Dpt
Paediatric	Dr.D.M.T.Gairdner	Wednesday, 1st & 3rd	9.30 am	O.P.D.
	Dr.I.R.Wallace	Wednesday, 1st & 3rd	9.30 am	O.P.D.
Physical Medicine	Dr.Randall	Thursday	2.30 pm	Physio.Dpt
Speech Therapy	Mrs.Rose	Wednesday	9.30 am	O.P.D.
Surgery, General	Mr.R.E.B.Tagart	Tuesday	9.15 am	O.P.D.
		Friday	10.30 am	O.P.D.
	Mr.T.M.Williams	Thursday	10.00 am	O.P.D.
Thoracic Surgery	Mr.B.B.Milstein	2nd Monday	10.00 am	O.P.D.
	Mr.C.Parish	4th Monday	10.00 am	O.P.D.

SECTION C

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

The following table shows the number of infectious and other diseases notified during the year:-

	Male	Female
Measles	47	59
Infective Hepatitis	-	1
	47	60

TUBERCULOSIS

New cases and Mortality

NEW CASES

	1972	1971	1970	1969	1968	1967	1966	1965	1964
Pulmonary	3	-	1	1	1	1	1	2	-
Non-Pulmonary	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	3

Ages of Cases notified during 1972

Pulmonary - 2 Males, 21 and 29 years
1 Female, 33 years

Mortality - There was one death from tuberculosis during the year.

TUBERCULOSIS REGISTER

	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Total
1. Cases at commencement 1972	5	3	2	1	11
2. First Notified during 1972	2	1	-	-	3
3. Restored to Register	-	-	-	-	-
4. Added by Transfers	1	-	-	-	1
5. Cases removed from Register	-	-	-	-	-
6. Remaining at 31.12.72	8	4	2	1	15

R E P O R T

of the

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

L. McCowey, M.A.P.H.I.

REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

Summary of visits carried out by Public Health Inspectors during 1972.

Animal Boarding Establishments Act	16
Caravan Sites	96
Clean Air Act	42
Deposit of Poisonous Waste Act	37
Drainage and Sewerage	108
Factories Act	70
Food and Drugs Act	8
Food Hygiene:-	
Bakehouses	Nil
Butchers Shops	15
Catering Premises	55
Chemists Shops	4
Confectioners	7
Dairies	3
Fishmongers	2
Fried Fish Shops	14
Greengrocers and Fruiterers	5
Grocers and General Dealers	50
Licensed Premises	80
Registered Food Premises	21
School Kitchens	10
Delivery Vehicles	10
Market Stalls	49
Mobile Shops	3
Food Inspection	22
Housing Acts	368
Improvement Grants	198
Infectious Diseases	28
Knackers Yards	13
Miscellaneous Visits	235
Noise Abatement Act	21
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act:-	
General Inspections	7
Revisits	26
Offices	14
Shops	56
Catering Establishments, Canteens	30
Wholesale Depots, Warehouses	3
Fuel Storage Depots	Nil
Outworkers	Nil
Pet Shops	8
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act	158
Public Conveniences	30
Public Health Acts	337
Qualification Certificates	9
Stables and Piggeries	23
Verminous Premises	8
Water Supply	65

HOUSING

The number of unfit houses demolished this year is almost double that of 1971 whilst the number of properties closed is slightly less.

Individual Unfit Houses - Housing Act 1957

Houses Closed - Sections 16 and 17	17
Houses Demolished - Section 17	47
Number of Demolition Orders made	26

Unfit Houses Made Fit

After informal action by the Local Authority	3
After formal notice made under the Public Health Acts	Nil
After formal notice under the Housing Acts	
(i) By the Local Authority	Nil
(ii) By the Owner	Nil

Other Houses in which Defects were Remedied

Informal action by Local Authority	4
Formal action - Housing Acts	Nil
Formal action - Public Health Acts	Nil

NEW DWELLINGS ERECTED

A total of 700 houses were erected during the year. Of these, 134 were erected by the Council and 566 by private enterprise.

The following table shows the distribution of newly erected houses throughout the District for 1972 and the previous three years.

Parish	Private				Council			
	1972	1971	1970	1969	1972	1971	1970	1969
Barton Mills	6	Nil	12	7	Nil	6	Nil	Nil
Beck Row	3				18			
Brandon	49	72	54	54	79	151	41	15
Cavenham	Nil	Nil	2	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Dalham	Nil	Nil	1	2	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Elveden	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Eriswell	402	63	2	3	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Freckenham	4	1	Nil	3	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Gazeley	2	Nil	1	6	Nil	Nil	10	Nil
Herringswell	2	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Higham	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Icklingham	1	Nil	Nil	2	Nil	10	4	4
Kenny Hill	2				Nil			
Kentford	Nil	1	18	9	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Lakenheath	44	104	77	78	12	18	4	10
Mildenhall	27	71	47	63	25	22	157	104
Moulton	8	9	2	8	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Santon Downham	2	Nil	Nil	1	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Tuddenham	8	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Wangford	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
West Row	6				Nil			
Worlington	Nil	2	Nil	10	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
TOTAL	566	323	216	246	134	207	216	133

WATER SUPPLY

The major part of the piped water supplies throughout the District is undertaken by the Ely, Mildenhall and Newmarket Water Board. Details of the supplies, which are adequate and wholesome, are set out below:-

Parish	Number of Dwellings	Public Water Mains		Private Supply	
		Inside Dwelling	Standpipe	Inside Dwelling	Pump Outside
Barton Mills	309	305	2	2	-
Brandon	1962	1936	5	21 (3)	-
Cavenham	46	34	-	9 (6)	3
Dalham	87	87	-	-	-
Elveden	137	-	-	135(135)	2
Eriswell	1257	1242	-	15	-
Freckenham	281	277	-	3	1
Gazeley	193	172	6	15	-
Herringswell	64	57	1	6	-
Higham	69	-	-	69	-
Icklingham	154	136	4	14	-
Kentford	85	79	6	-	-
Lakenheath	1221	1202	11	5	3
Mildenhall	3346	3325	6	6	9
Moulton	396	396	-	-	-
Santon Downham	88	-	-	88	-
Tuddenham	137	127	2	8	-
Wangford	11	-	-	11	-
Worlington	170	162	3	5	-
TOTAL	10013	9537	46	412(144)	18

The figures in brackets indicate the number of dwellings having a chlorinated private water supply.

Of the 412 dwellings having a private water supply inside, 3 of these obtain their water by means of a hand pump.

House Improvements and Repairs

The following table sets out the number of grants paid during the last four years.

	PRIVATE				COUNCIL			
	1969	1970	1971	1972	1969	1970	1971	1972
Discretionary Grants	8	10	14	10	14	12	10	6
Standard Grants	21	16	27	10	-	-	-	-

A considerable reduction occured during 1972 and from the general pattern it is clear that a fundamental change in the Council's policy on the improvement of houses should be considered.

Visits and advice to owners on both types of grant and the distribution of explanatory booklets continued throughout the year.

Application for Qualification Certificates
Rent of Dwellings in Good Repair and Provided with Standard Amenities

The number of applications dealt with during the year is set out below:-

1. Where the dwelling does not have all the standard amenities

	1970	1971	1972
Number of applications received	NIL	5	NIL
Number of applications granted	NIL	2	NIL
Number of certificates of provisional approval issued	NIL	3	NIL
Number of applications refused	NIL	NIL	NIL

2. Where the dwelling does have all the standard amenities

	1970	1971	1972
Number of applications received	11	1	3
Number of applications granted	2	1	1
Number of applications refused	9	NIL	2

EXAMINATION OF WATER SUPPLIES

Bacteriological Examination

The programme, initiated in 1970, to examine all private, untreated water supplies within the Rural District was continued during 1972.

The number of samples taken and the results obtained are set out below:-

No.Samples	Class 1 Highly Satisfactory	Class 2 Satisfactory	Class 3 Suspicious	Class 4 Unsatisfactory
38	29	0	2	7

The samples falling into classes 3 and 4 were taken from two private supplies. Contamination was found to be taking place in two external overhead water storage tanks and this has been rectified in both cases.

As a result of the special attention paid to all private supplies within the District I am able to say that, bacteriologically, they are of excellent quality.

Chemical Examination (Analysis)

Every year samples of water are taken by the Water Board from eachpublic source within the Rural District and submitted to chemical analysis.

As in previous years the analyst reports that the water in each sample conforms to the highest organic purity and the results indicate a pure and wholesome water suitable for public supply purposes, from the aspect of the chemical and mineral analysis.

Typical results of samples are shown overleaf:-

RESULTS OF ANALYSIS OF WATER SUPPLIES 1972

Test (Parts per million)	Brandon Boreholes		Eriswell Boreholes		Moulton	Tuddenham
	No. 1	No. 2	No. 1	No. 2		
Appearance	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good
pH Values	7.8	7.9	7.7	7.7	7.1	7.3
Chloride	19	19	27	18	30	19
Total Hardness	188	184	226	296	342	221
Nitrate Nitrogen	3.6	3.8	3.4	5.0	7.4	3.4
Nitrite Nitrogen	0.000	0.001	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.02
Albuminoid Nitrogen	0.00	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.03
Metals:						
Iron	0.01	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.01
Zinc	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent
Copper	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent
Lead	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent
Manganese	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent
Sodium	9	9	8	6	6	5
Fluoride	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.15	0.02
Turbidity	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Odour	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Free Carbon Dioxide	5	4	8	6	38	20
Oxygen Absorbed	0.20	0.35	0.35	0.25	0.40	0.35
Residual Chlorine	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent
Silica	15	12	14	16	17	11
Dissolved Solids dried at 180°C	340	330	380	320	505	325

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE

The Council continued their programme of providing modern sewerage and sewage disposal systems in the district and anticipate finalising the major schemes during 1973.

The following progress was made during 1972.

Beck Row and Holywell Row Sewerage Schemes

This new sewerage system was put into use in August 1972, the contractors having brought the scheme into operation before the contract period expired.

Elveden Village Sewerage Scheme

This scheme was approved by the Department of the Environment during the year, tenders were obtained and work commenced in November 1972.

Good progress has been made with the scheme and completion is anticipated about the middle of 1973.

Eriswell Sewerage Scheme

This scheme was submitted to the Department of the Environment and the County Council for approval with a view to tenders being obtained during 1973.

Extension to Brandon Sewage Treatment Works

The modernisation and extension of Brandon Sewage Works has proceeded according to programme and it is anticipated that the new treatment plant will be in operation early in 1973.

Kentford and Kennett Sewerage Scheme

Some progress was made during the year on the design of a sewerage scheme and disposal works for these villages. The scheme is being done jointly with Newmarket Rural District Council and the sewage disposal works will be in Mildenhall Rural District.

NOTE

The schemes at Beck Row and Holywell Row, Elveden and Eriswell were designed in the Council's Engineer and Surveyor's Department. The remainder were designed by the Council's consulting engineers.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

Refuse Collection Service

All towns and villages throughout the District, except the Fen areas, are now receiving a weekly refuse collection service. A weekly collection from the Fens is not considered to be practicable because of the sparse population and largeness of the area involved.

Refuse Disposal

The Council continued to make use of four tipping areas at Barton Mills, Lakenheath, Dalham and during the winter months only, Herringswell for the disposal of domestic refuse. Free access of the general public to the areas helps to keep the countryside free from unsightly and unauthorised tips.

Regular inspections of all tips for rodent control purposes continued throughout the year and twice-weekly spraying with insecticide was carried out during the major part of the summer months to prevent flies breeding.

Although the programme to provide modern sewerage and sewage disposal systems throughout the more densely populated parts of the district is nearing completion, the need for a septic tank cleansing service remains essential.

The number of tanks emptied during 1972 and the previous two years is shown below.

Number of tanks emptied			Total number of loads		
1972	1971	1970	1972	1971	1970
2116	2091	2035	3423	3150	2788

INSPECTION OF FOOD AND ADMINISTRATION OF FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS

Summary of Food Premises

Bakehouses	3
Butchers	16
Catering Premises	35
Chemists Shops	2
Confectioners	13
Dairies	3
Fishmongers	3
Fried Fish Shops	5
Greengrocers and Fruiterers	8
Grocers and General Dealers	53
Licensed Premises	63
Mobile Food Shops	4
Registered Food Premises	66
School Kitchens	8
Total	282

Registered Food Premises

Storage and Sale of Ice Cream	60
Storage of Ice Cream intended of sale	0
Preparation of Sausages or potted, pressed, pickled or preserved food	6
Total	66

Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1970

Two hundred and eighty two visits were made to food premises during the year and as a result of these inspections twenty nine informal notices were served for a variety of infringements, several being noted in most cases. The analysis in the table below again shows that cleanliness and repair of the structure of food premises is still the item warranting more attention by the proprietors of food businesses.

Analysis of contraventions found:-

Subject	Number of Contraventions
Food business not to be carried on from insanitary premises	2
Cleanliness of articles or equipment	25
Food to be protected from risk of contamination	10
Personal Cleanliness	3
Persons handling open food to wear overclothing etc.	1
Sanitary Conveniences	6
Wash hand basins to be provided	12
First-aid materials to be provided	3
Accommodation for clothing etc.	1
Facilities for washing food and equipment	2
Ventilation of food rooms	7
Cleanliness and repair of food rooms	38
Accumulation of refuse, etc.	5
Temperature at which certain foods are to be kept	1

No prosecutions regarding food premises were instituted during the year.

Food Hygiene (Markets, Stalls and Delivery Vehicles) Regulations 1966

The food stalls at Mildenhall and Brandon Markets and Mobile Shops operating in the area were kept under surveillance during the year.

As a result of informal notices served on several stall operators in 1972 the general standard of market food stalls has improved.

FOOD INSPECTION AND COMPLAINTS

Food Complaints

One prosecution under the Food and Drugs Act 1955 concerning mouldy sausages was taken during the year and two prosecutions concerning unclean milk bottles under the Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations 1959. All prosecutions concerned one company who pleaded guilty in all three cases and was fined a total of £120 with £7 costs.

Food Inspection

In the course of general food inspection duties 192lbs. of unsound food were surrendered. Vendors co-operated satisfactorily in reporting suspected food and it was not necessary to make any seizures of food. Details of food voluntarily surrendered are as follows:-

Food	Weight (lbs)
Canned meats	30
Other canned foods	95
Fruit and vegetables	67
Total	192

This condemned food was disposed of by burial in refuse pits. No special examinations of whole stocks or consignments of food were necessary during the year.

Poultry Inspection at Poultry Processing Premises

There were no Poultry Processing premises within the District.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT 1963

There were 121 premises registered with the authority under the Act at the end of 1972, this being an increase of 4 on the 1971 total.

The types of premises and the number of persons employed are shown in the table below:-

Type of Premises	No. on Register	No. of Persons Employed
Offices	36	140
Retail Shops	71	289
Wholesale Shops, Warehouses	1	2
Catering Establishments open to Public	13	77
Fuel Storage Depots	-	-
Total	121	508
	Males	209
	Females	299

ACCIDENTS

No accidents were reported during the year.

EXEMPTIONS

There are no premises within the area for which exemption from any requirements of the Act have been granted.

ADMINISTRATION

One hundred and twenty seven visits were made during the year, including general inspections of all new premises to which the Act applied.

Sixteen informal notices were served in respect of various contraventions as set out below.

Premises revisited as a result of informal action showed that remedial measures to comply with the requirements of the Act, were, in most cases, completed or in hand.

Section	Subject	Number of Contraventions
4	Cleanliness	9
6	Temperature	1
7	Ventilation	2
8	Lighting	2
9	Sanitary Conveniences	7
10	Washing Facilities	4
15	Eating Facilities	1
16	Floor, Passages and Stairs	8
24	First Aid Provisions	1
50	Information for Employees	4

PROSECUTIONS

It was not found necessary to institute legal proceedings for enforcement of the provisions of the Act during 1972.

FACTORIES ACT 1961

Details relating to visits and the action taken are shown below.

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act 1961.

Part 1 of the Act

1. Inspections for purposes of provision as to health:-

	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
Factories (no power) in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by the Local Authority	7	3	NIL	NIL
Factories (with power) not included above in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	120	40	4	NIL
Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises)	27	27	NIL	NIL
TOTALS	154	70	4	NIL

2. Cases in which defects were found:-

	Found	Remedied	Referred		Number of Prosecutions Instituted
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Sanitary Conveniences Section 7					
(a) insufficient	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
(b) unsuitable of defective	4	5	Nil	Nil	Nil
Other offences against the Act	1	2	Nil	Nil	Nil

PART VIII OF THE ACT

OUTWORK

(Sections 133 and 134)

Section 133	Lamp Shades	Wearing Apparel	Eye Shades Shower Curtains	Travel Bags
(i) Number of outworkers in August list required by Section 133 (i) (c)	11	77	11	18
(ii) Number of cases in default in sending lists to the Council	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
(iii) Number of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Section 134				
(i) Number of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
(ii) Notices served	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
(iii) Prosecutions	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

RODENT CONTROL

(a) Rodent Control

During the year two hundred and seventy six complaints were received concerning infestations of rats and/or mice, this being an increase of thirty on the previous year. The Council's sewage disposal works, refuse dumps etc., were rat disinfested as a routine measure in accordance with the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food requirements.

Details of Rodent Control work carried out by Public Health Inspectors and the full-time Rodent Operator during the year:-

		Non Agricultural	Agricultural
Number of properties in District		9334	699
Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification		902	22
Number infested by:	Rats	307	16
	Mice	114	3
Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification		389	56
Number infested by:	Rats	141	22
	Mice	37	2

The Council operates its own rodent control service, employing one full time operator. The Council undertake a rat and mouse disinfestation service for occupiers of business premises on a basis of repayment of the cost of time, transport and materials, and for occupiers of domestic premises a free service. The charges for treatment of business and agricultural premises remained unchanged at 50p per hour and 65p per hour respectively.

There was no evidence of Warfarin-resistant rats having spread to this District during the year.

(b) Annual Sewer Examinations

During 1972 the Council's public sewers in the following parishes were examined for rodent activity, the results of the survey were:-

Parish	No.of manholes in system	No. of manholes baited	No. of positive results
Barton Mills	40	7	Nil
Brandon	250	33	4
Cavenham	14	3	Nil
Dalham	33	5	Nil
Freckenham Red Lodge	54	7	Nil
Freckenham Village	62	7	Nil
Gazeley	33	6	Nil
Herringswell	13	2	Nil

Disinfestation was carried out in the area shown to be infested in the original survey of Brandon. Further test baiting, showed the area to be free from rat infestation.

(c) Disinfestation

In addition to the rodent control service the following infestations were dealt with by the Public Health Department during the year:-

Ants	3	Fleas	3
Bees	12	Flies	3
Bed Bugs	2	Wasps	21
Earwigs	1	Other insects	2

(d) Miscellaneous Pests

Seven disinfestations in respect of moles were carried out during the year.

CARAVAN SITES AND CONTROL OF DEVELOPMENT ACT 1960

The summary below shows the position regarding site licences for the period covered by this report.

New site licences granted	0
Site licences renewed	12
Expired site licences not renewed	9
Total number of licenced sites at 31.12.72	34
Total number of sites at 31.12.72	43
Total number of caravans permitted to occupy licenced sites at 31.12.72	421

Seventeen of the thirty four licenced sites are for single caravans.

Caravan Sites Act 1968

Unauthorised gypsy encampments, comprising of a total of 13-14 caravans, occurred persistantly throughout the winter months and part of the summer in the farm droves around Beck Row but, apart from the odd minor case, no other part of the district was affected.

A special Gypsy Site Inspection Panel was formed by West Suffolk County Council to examine possible itinerant caravan sites and they selected the following two sites: (i) land at Rougham Hill, Bury St. Edmunds, which is opposed by Bury St. Edmunds Borough Council and (ii) land on disused railway station at Glemsford, which is opposed by Melford Rural District Council and Glemsford Parish Council.

The final outcome of the County Council's decision on these sites is awaited with interest.

GENERAL MATTERS OF INSPECTION

ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT 1963

There are three licenced boarding kennels in the district. In one establishment the licence permits the boarding of 50 dogs and 15 cats, in a second kennels 20 dogs are permitted and in the third case the number of dogs is limited to 10.

Each of the premises is of a good standard and meets the Council's requirements in full.

CLEAN AIR ACTS 1956 AND 1968

Two complaints of alleged smoke nuisances were received during the year. Both complaints were of a domestic nature and were dealt with informally.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

No cases of infectious diseases were notified during the year.

FOOD POISONING

A small outbreak of chemical food poisoning occurred during the year following the consumption of canned grapefruit juice. Investigation showed that, over a short period of time, seven people were affected. In all cases the symptoms were common, namely, acute abdominal pain within approximately 30 minutes of consumption, followed by vomiting and diarrhoea which continued for some 4 to 6 hours.

Three unopened cans of the grapefruit juice were submitted for examination, together with the juice remaining after part of the contents of another can had been consumed by one of the persons affected. The external appearance of the three cans was reported as satisfactory. On piercing, however, hydrogen was released from each, although the amount present had been insufficient to produce springing of the can ends. Examination of the juice from the worst of the cans gave 425 parts per million of tin. Lead, copper and zinc were less than the statutory or recommended limits and the juice showed no other abnormal features. On analysis, the juice complained of was found to contain 450 parts per million of tin.

The grapefruit juice was part of a consignment imported from Greece last October. There was some early indication that consumption of juice from certain cans in the consignment had caused illness and steps had been taken to withdraw it from sale, for destruction. The batch of cans supplied to Mildenhall Rural District had however escaped the Importers withdrawal procedures.

An important conclusion to be drawn from the above case, in the opinion of the analyst, is that if less than twice the recommended limit for tin of 250 parts per million can cause trouble of this sort, then surely the limit is far too high and should be reduced considerably.

One other suspected case of salmonella food poisoning was notified and confirmed. It was not possible to trace the source of infection.

KNACKERS YARD

The only knackers yard in the district continues to operate efficiently. The internal structural design and finishes enable a good standard of hygiene to be maintained.

NOISE ABATEMENT ACT 1960

Five complaints of noise were received during the year, two arising from machinery in a scrap metal yard, one from grain drying equipment, one from motor cycle scrambling and one from a poultry rearing establishment.

In the case of the poultry rearing establishement although a noise nuisance was not established the matter was satisfactorily resolved. In the remaining four cases, the mutual co-operation of all parties involved resulted in the complaints being dealt with informally.

PET ANIMALS ACT 1951

One application for a licence to keep a pet shop was granted during the year.

The premises comply with the requirements of the Act in every respect.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS 1936 AND 1961

Three abatement notices were served and complied with during the year. Thirty informal notices were served, nine in respect of disrepair ect., in dwelling houses and the remainder for miscellaneous matters.

Twenty seven of the informal notices have been complied with and appropriate action is being taken to deal with the remaining three.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES ACT 1958

There are no slaughterhouses with the Rural District.

SCHOOL SWIMMING POOLS

Seven outdoor swimming pools are located at schools in Brandon, Elveden, Lakenheath, Mildenhall, Moulton, Tuddenham and Gazeley.

Regular testing of the water is carried out by the Weights and Measures Department of West Suffolk County Council and school staff are instructed in the use of the equipment necessary to maintain the recommended standards.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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